

choked on a piece of food.

10. to become obstructed, clogged, or otherwise stopped:
The words choked in her throat.

—*noun*

11. the act or sound of choking.
12. a mechanism by which the air supply to the carburetor of an internal-combustion engine can be diminished or stopped.
13. *Machinery.* any mechanism that, by blocking a passage, regulates the flow of air, gas, etc.
14. *Electricity.* CHOKE COIL.
15. a narrowed part, as in a chokebore.
16. the bristly upper portion of the receptacle of the artichoke.

—*Verb phrases*

17. choke off, to stop or obstruct by or as by choking: *to choke off a nation's fuel supply.*
18. choke up,
a. to become or cause to become speechless, as from the effect of emotion or stress: *She choked up over the sadness of the tale.*
b. to become too tense or nervous to perform well: *Our team began to choke up in the last inning.*

[Origin: 1150–1200; ME *choken*, *cheken*, var. of *achoken*, *acheken*, OE *ācéocian* to suffocate; akin to ON *kōk* gullet]

—*Related forms*

choke·a·ble, *adjective*

—*Synonyms* 3. block, dam, plug.

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choke coil

—*noun Electricity.*

a coil of large inductance that gives relatively large impedance to alternating current.

Also called choke.

[Origin: 1905–10]

Dictionary.com Unabridged (v 1.1)

[Middle English *choken*, short for *achoken*, from Old English *āceōcian*: *ā-*, *intensive pref.* + *cēoce*, *cēace*, *jaw*, *cheek*.]

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choke

c.1200, aphetic of *acheken*, from O.E. *aceocian* "to choke" (with intensive *a-*), probably from base of *ceoke* "jaw, cheek." Meaning "valve which controls air to a carburetor" first recorded 1926. *Choke-cherry* (1785) so called for its astringent qualities. *Choker* "large neckerchief" is from 1848.

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choke

noun

1. a coil of low resistance and high inductance used in electrical circuits to pass direct current and attenuate alternating current
2. a valve that controls the flow of air into the carburetor of a gasoline engine

verb

1. breathe with great difficulty, as when experiencing a strong emotion; "She choked with emotion when she spoke about her deceased husband"
2. be too tight; rub or press; "This neckband is choking the cat"
3. wring the neck of; "The man choked his opponent"
4. constrict (someone's) throat and keep from breathing
5. struggle for breath; have insufficient oxygen intake; "he swallowed a fishbone and gagged" [syn: gag]
6. fail to perform adequately due to tension or agitation; "The team should have won hands down but choked, disappointing the coach and the audience"
7. check or slow down the action or effect of; "She choked her anger"
8. become or cause to become obstructed; "The leaves clog our drains in the Fall"; "The water pipe is backed up" [syn: clog] [ant: unclog]